

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 THE HA 01743 141359 Z

47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

GAC-01 EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /106 W
----- 072145

R 141145 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1099

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UXMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 1743

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PGOV NL

SUBJECT: NEW DUTCH GOVERNMENT: CO- INFORMATEURS INVESTIGATING
WHERE

BURGER FORMATION WENT AWRY

REF THE HAGUE 1671

1. SUMMARY: CO- INFORMATEURS VAN AGT AND ALBEDA HAVE BEGUN CONSULTATIONS WITH PARLIAMENTARY FLOOR LEADERS. THEIR ANNOUNCED AIM IS TO DISCOVER THE CAUSES FOR BURGER EFFORT' S FAILURE AND ELIMINATE THEM, THEREBY ENABLING LEFT WING CONFSSIONAL GOVT WITH DEN UYL AS PRIMIN TO TAKE OFFICE. PRESENT POSITION OF CONFSSIONALS AND LABOR, HOWEVER, OFFERS LITTLE HOPE EITHER SIDE WILLING TO MODIFY ITS POSITION AND END IMPASSE. END SUMMARY

2. CO- INFORMATEURS VAN AGT AND ALBEDA BEGAN THEIR INVESTIGATION INTO WHY BURGER FORMATION FAILED APRIL 11 WITH SESSIONS WITH EX- FORMATEUR AND HIS PREDECESSOR, INFORMATEUR FUPPERT. EVENING SAME DAY, THEY MET WITH PROF. DE GAAY FORTMAN, SR., ARP FLOOR LEADER IN FIRST CHAMBER WHO HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO SERVE IN DEN UYL GOVT. APRIL 12 THEY MET ON INDIVIDUAL BASIS WITH LEFT WING LEADERSHIP (DEN UYL, LABOR; DE GAAY FORTMAN, JR., RADICALS AND VAN MIERLO, D'66) AND ANDIRESSEN OF KVP. TODAY (APRIL 13) THEY TALK WITH TILANUS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 THE HA 01743 141359 Z

OF CHU AND AANTJES OF ARP. NEITHER OF THE CO- INFORMATEURS HAS MET WITH PRESS NOR HAVE PARTICIPANTS IN DISCUSSIONS COMMENTED ON THEIR CONTENTS. INFORMATEURS END REPORT EXPECTED NEXT WEEK.

3. MOST RECENT ADVICE PARLIAMENTARY FLOOR LEADERS GAVE QUEEN PUBLISHED APRIL 12. AANTJES OF ARP AND ANDRIESSEN OF KVP DO NOT RULE OUT " OTHER POSSIBILITIES" SHOULD EXTRA PARLIAMENTARY CABINET WITH LEFT WING SIGNATURE NOT PROVE POSSIBLE. " OTHER POSSIBILITIES" IS EUPHEMISM FOR COOPERATION WITH LIBERALS. VVD, STILL EXCLUDED FROM FORMATION, CONTINUES TO KEEP JUDICIOUS SILENCE. ITS ANNUAL PARTY CONGRESS BEGINS APRIL 14. PARLIAMENTARY FLOOR LEADER WIEGEL WILL HAVE TO ASSURE THAT HIS RANK AND FILE, IMPATIENT WITH A SITUATION

IN WHICH ELECTION SUCCESS SEEMS TO HAVE BROUGHT THEM NOTHING, TAKE NO ACTION WHICH WOULD MAKE HIS NEGOTIATIONS WITH CONFESSIONALS MORE DIFFICULT SHOULD ALBEDA- VAN AGT EFFORT FAIL.

4. RECENT DISCUSSIONS EMBOFFS HAVE HAD WITH POLITICIANS INDICATE NO CHANGE IN POSITION OF EITHER LEFT WING OR CONFESSIONALS. KVP FLOOR LEADER ANDRIESSEN TOLD POLCOUNS AT DINNER APRIL 11 HE HAS MADE ALL THE CONCESSIONS HE CAN. IT IS NOW TURN OF THE OTHER SIDE. ANDRIESSEN, WHO WAS STRONGLY CRITICAL OF BURGER' S DEVIUSNESS, SAID HE HAD IMPRESSION DEN UYL WAS USING HIS LEFT WING' S OPPOSITION TO PROGRAMMATIC CONCESSIONS AS EXCUSE AND IF DEN UYL TRIED HARD ENOUGH HE COULD BRING HIS RANK AND FILE AROUND. LABOR SECOND CHAMBER MEMBER VAN LIER TOLD EMBOFF APRIL 11 HE DID NOT SEE HOW HIS PARTY COULD BACK AWAY FROM ITS REFUSAL TO MAKE PROGRAMMATIC CONCESSIONS. VAN LIER, WHO SAID THERE NO TREMENDOUS SENSE OF URGENCY ABOUT LABOR RULING NOW, MAINTAINED ALTERNATIVE TO A DEN UYL GOVT IS A CONFESSIONAL- LIBERAL GOVT WITH SCHMELZER AS PREMIER. LABOR IS CONVINCED THIS GOVT WOULD NOT LAST VERY LONG, MAKING NEW ELECTIONS NECESSARY IN 1974. THESE WOULD MEAN GAINS FOR LEFT WING AND FURTHER LOSSES FOR CONFESSIONALS. THUS SLOWLY BUT SURELY LEFT WING WOULD COME IN STRIKING DISTANCE OF A MAJORITY. KVP SECOND CHAMBER MEMBER VAN ZEIL, WHO HAS BEEN MENTIONED AS MINISTER IN LEFT WING- CONFESSIONAL CABINET, TOLD EMBOFF APRIL 12 HE WAS STILL UNCERTAIN WHAT WOULD HAPPEN. HE PERSONALLY COULD NEVER SUPPORT FURTHER CONFESSIONAL COOPERATION WITH THE LIBERALS, EVEN IF THIS MEANT HIS HAVING TO SPLIT WITH PARTY.

VAN ZEIL, WHO WAS A TRADE UNION LEADER FOR MOST OF HIS LIFE, SAID SOCIO- ECONOMIC SITUATION IN NETHERLANDS SO EXPLOSIVE ANY NEW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 THE HA 01743 141359 Z

GOVT WILL HAVE ITS HANDS FULL. LIBERAL PARTICIPATION IN NEW GOVT MEANS "POURING OIL ON THE FIRE." VAN ZEIL SAID VAN AGT AND ALBEDA COULD ALSO INVESTIGATE A CONFESSONAL MINORITY GOVT, I. E., CONFESSONAL MINISTERS SUPPLEMENTED BY TECHNICAL EXPERTS WITHOUT PARTY AFFILIATION OR EVEN MODERATE LEFT WING FIGURES. VAN ZEIL WAS NOT VERY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THIS POSSIBILITY AND DOUBTS IT IS REALLY A LIVE OPTION. THE KVP PARLIAMENTARIANS DOUBTED VAN AGT OR ALBEDA, GIVEN THEIR LEFT WING ORIENTATION, WOULD MAKE ANY EFFORT TO PAVE THE WAY FOR A CONFESSONAL- LIBERAL COALITION. VAN ZEIL AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT MANY OF HIS KVP COLLEAGUES FELT THE DUO WOULD DO EXACTLY THAT IF IT BECAME ONLY ALTERNATIVE.

5. COMMENT: VAN AGT AND ALBEDA'S MOST PROBABLE INITIAL APPROACH TO IMPASSE WILL BE ALONG LINES SUGGESTED BY PROF. DE GAAY FORTMAN TWO WEEKS AGO. THIS WOULD PROVIDE THAT IN NEW CABINET (10 LEFT WING AND 6 CONFESSONALS), LEFT WING COULD PROCEED ON BASIS OF THEIR ELECTION PROGRAM WHILE THE CONFESSONALS WOULD USE THEIR OWN MANIFEST AS THEIR STARTING POINT. TWO SIDES WOULD DECIDE WHICH ITEMS WERE OF SUCH IMPORTANCE THAT CABINET WOULD RESIGN IF THEY WERE OR WERE NOT ENACTED. PHILOSOPHY BEHIND THIS APPROACH IS ONCE CABINET IN PLACE AND CONFRONTED WITH PROBLEM OF GOVERNING, WILL TO COOPERATE WILL INCREASE AND BOTH SIDES WILL BECOME LESS DOCTRINAIRE AND RIGID. OPPOSED TO THIS THEORY IS VIEW OF KVP LEADER ANDRIESEN WHO TOLD POLCOUNS IDEA OF MANNING CABINET AND THEN THRASHING OUT PROGRAM IS PUTTING CART BEFORE THE HORSE. WITH NO HINT OF CONCESSION FROM LEFT WING AND CONFESSONALS CONVINCED THEY HAVE MADE EVERY CONCESSION POSSIBLE, POSSIBILITY DUO VAN AGT-ALBEDA CAN MAKE BREAKTHROUGH IS NOT GREAT. AT MOMENT IT STILL SEEMS TO BE A CASE OF NO WILL AND NO WAY. SHOULD INFORMATEURS WRITE OFF CONFESSONAL- LEFT WING COMBINATION, WE WOULD EXPECT THEM OR WHOEVER SUCCEEDS THEM TO MOVE QUICKLY IN DIRECTION OF FOUR OR FIVE PARTY COALITION WITH LIBERALS AS SUGGESTED PARAGRAPH 1 REFTEL. TANGUY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973THEHA01743
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730444/aaaaipqu.tel
Line Count: 155
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 THE HAGUE 1671
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <18-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980121
Subject: NEW DUTCH GOVERNMENT: CO- INFORMATEURS INVESTIGATING WHERE BURGER FORMATION WENT AWRY REF THE
HAGUE 1671
TAGS: PGOV, NL
To: BRUSSELS
EUR
NATO
SECSTATE WASHDC
UXMISSION EC BRUSSELS
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005